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27 October 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for National Estimates

SUBJECT : Coordination of the economic contribution  
for NIE 11-6-54

1. The difficulty of obtaining interagency "coordination" of an NIE contribution is brought out by our experience with the Ad Hoc Committee for the economic contribution to NIE 11-6-54.

2. During the coordination procedure one of the military members of this committee raised several questions about the first draft of the contribution. These were discussed extensively with some of the technical people and some changes were made. This member then agreed to the draft--perhaps reluctantly.

3. Later, at the IAC Representatives' meeting with ONE, these same objections were raised. In this case the same man represented that particular agency at both the Ad Hoc Committee meeting and the IAC Representatives' meeting.

4. The difficulty involved here is simply that full final coordination of a contribution at a meeting like that of the Ad Hoc Committee is almost impossible for several reasons. First, the representative on the Committee may not have the authority to sign off on a contribution. Second, he may not be technically competent to evaluate various matters of substance and must take the draft or questions on the draft to his office to get technical advice. Third, there is no assurance that the same objections previously raised and withdrawn at the coordinating meeting cannot be raised again at the IAC Representatives' meeting.

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